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REGNUM CHRISTI NEWS OF THE WEEK

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**It's Not too Early to Start
Planning for the 2016 World
Youth Day**

Pilgrims are encouraged to prepare now to attend the events in Krakow, Poland with Mission Youth

Calling all Catholic young people ages 16 - 25! It is not too soon to start planning your trip to World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, Poland. It will be a faith-filled, inspiring, and memorable 13-day pilgrimage that you won't want to miss!



“Now is the time to start planning, fundraising and saving for this life changing experience with Pope Francis and the youth of the Church in John Paul II’s native land!” said Regnum Christi consecrated woman Katelyn Moroney, Mission Youth National Director.

So, what is World Youth Day (WYD)? It is an international event, organized by the Catholic Church, to unite all the young Catholics from around the world to come and share their faith alongside the Holy Father. It is a celebration and an opportunity to have a close and personal experience with Christ.

Mission Youth proudly partners with the Catholic Pilgrimage Office, an agency with more than 36 years of organizing pilgrimage experiences.

“We are partnering with the best in class agency that ensures logistically our international experience runs smoothly,” said Maria Gaviria, Mission Youth World Youth Day Pilgrimage Leader. “Mission Youth uniquely enables a very profound joyful spiritual experience of a life time, igniting a deep encounter with Christ. Our leadership team includes Legionary priests, consecrated women and faith-filled adult Mission Youth staff who will accompany our pilgrims on their spiritual journey. We offer daily masses, spiritual direction, confession and opportunities for Eucharistic

Adoration. And we do all this while also having lots of fun – meeting people from different countries. You will hear music in all corners of the city, you will spontaneously join other Catholic youth on the street singing, dancing or praying, you will take pride in your nationality by wearing your flag colors and much more...Who said Catholics were not fun!”

Interested young people should check out the official Mission Youth [website](#). The site provides day-by-day itinerary of the pilgrimage and information on how to sign up! Click [here](#) for the itinerary and [here](#) for the enrollment package.

Maria suggests young people request to join the World Youth Day Mission Youth [Facebook group](#) page to stay updated. Here is a glimpse of what you can expect at WYD

2016: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_kjuG1sqO1w.

According to Maria, the Mission Youth staff has participated in the last eight international World Youth Day events. This WYD is expected to be one of the largest ever, with approximately 4 million young

people traveling to Poland.

“Accommodations will be limited,” Maria said. “We have prepaid for 80 spots for Mission Youth pilgrims. Flights will need to be booked well in advance, and therefore, we highly recommend that as soon as the pilgrim discerns they are going, they should send in their enrollment form to secure a spot.”

The cost to attend the 13-day pilgrimage from July 21-August 2, 2016, will be \$3,600, including airfare from Chicago. (Each pilgrim is responsible for booking his/her own flight to and from Chicago.) We are very blessed to have secured accommodations at the campus of AGH University of

**WYD 2016
Kraków**

Poland



World Youth Day 2016 takes place in the homeland of St. John Paul II.



Science and Technology in Krakow, a close distance to all main events.

To register for a spot with Mission Youth, send a check of \$150 made out to The Catholic Pilgrimage Office, and mail it, along with a completed registration form, to Maria Gaviria at the The Catholic Pilgrimage Office, Mission Youth WYD 2016 Krakow, P.O. Box 53419, Atlanta, GA, 30355.

Maria reminds potential pilgrims they should not only be preparing financially, but physically and most importantly, spiritually.

Physical preparation is necessary because WYD participation requires constant walking, hiking, and “waiting” – enduring days of up to 15 to 18 hours of events and activities.

Regarding spiritual preparation, Maria said, “Attending a particular World Youth Day is a calling, a discernment process.” She suggests pilgrims work to improve their prayer life, as well as fasting and almsgiving. Following are some ideas:

- Regular Eucharistic Adoration
- Praying the Rosary
- Daily Mass
- Attending a retreat or parish faith development event
- Read a spiritual book
- Volunteer for a local mission
- Go to regular confession
- Pray the official WYD Prayer (see below)

The following WYD prayer entrusts humanity and young people to God’s Divine Mercy, and invokes the intercession of the Virgin Mary and St. John Paul II, patron of World Youth Day:

*God, merciful Father,
in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love
and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.
We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and
woman.*

*We entrust to you in a special way
young people of every language, people and nation:
guide and protect them as they walk the complex paths of the world today
and give them the grace to reap abundant fruits
from their experience of the Krakow World Youth Day.
Heavenly Father,
grant that we may bear witness to your mercy.
Teach us how to convey the faith to those in doubt,
hope to those who are discouraged,
love to those who feel indifferent,
forgiveness to those who have done wrong
and joy to those who are unhappy.
Allow the spark of merciful love
that you have enkindled within us
to become a fire that can transform hearts
and renew*



Pope Francis will be waiting for you!



the face of the earth.

Mary, Mother of Mercy, pray for us.

St. John Paul II, pray for us.

Triple Blessings

Regnum Christi Live – September 8

By Jennifer Ristine



One week into my “new life” in the Holy Land and I am overwhelmed by the blessings and newness of this place. There are constant paradoxes...a place of strife amidst varying cultures, yet a place where many discover peace of heart; a place of much division of beliefs, yet belief in the one same God.

This week brought a triple blessing as I contemplated the principal mysteries of my faith in the actual places where they took place some 2000 years ago. A trip to Bethlehem brought me to my knees in the heart of the cave where Jesus was born, receiving my Jesus in the Eucharist. At the same time, on top of the cave, the Greek Orthodox celebrated the Assumption of Our Lady and a Muslim guard protected both areas to assure that the celebrations went undisturbed.

The next day, I participated in Mass in a Franciscan Church that stands alongside the Upper Room, the revered place of many sacraments: the first Eucharistic celebration (Last Supper), Pentecost, Confession and Holy Orders (Jn 20:19-23). Yet it belongs to the Jews who guard it and invite people to enter the first floor where tradition has placed the Tomb of David.

As if this weren't enough graces for one week, I rose early on Monday morning and walked 15 minutes from the Notre Dame Center to the Holy Sepulcher. With so few pilgrims I was able to enter the tomb and participate in Mass. Kneeling before the stone upon which Jesus was lain and placing my hands upon it, I thought of the power of the resurrection and prayed for faith for those who do not believe.

Exiting the tomb of the Holy Sepulcher you can walk within the Church to Mount Calvary. (Jn 19:41). I knelt within 3 feet of where Jesus' cross is believed to have stood. Four feet to my left a priest was celebrating Mass. At the consecration I thought of how the blood of Christ continues to be shed for the sins of many. Every Eucharistic celebration "re-presents" Jesus' Last Supper, suffering on Calvary and Resurrection and outpouring at Pentecost.

We have it all...the grace of all Christ's mysteries are present to us again in each Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. His love is very creative! Thank you Jesus!

Perhaps 2015 is the year you visit the Holy Land. Here is an opportunity: [Jerusalem Pilgrimage 2015](#)

A Mother's Tears

Retreat Guide on Our Lady of Sorrows just released

The life of the Blessed Virgin Mary involved much suffering.

She, St. Joseph and the child Jesus had to flee to Egypt to escape Herod's persecution. When Jesus was age 12, Joseph and Mary spent three days frantically searching for Him until they found Jesus in the Temple.



But even those sufferings were nothing compared to what Mary had to go through during our Lord's passion. She stood by, helpless, watching Jesus being condemned unjustly, mocked, scourged and tortured, crowned with thorns, and crucified. Could anything be more horrible for a mother to witness that this?

Jesus, being God, could have preserved her from that. He could have brought her home to heaven before those events occurred, as happened with St. Joseph. But he did not. His love for his mother somehow included allowing her to suffer, and to suffer deeply.

Why? That's what this Retreat Guide, "A Mother's Tears: A Retreat Guide on Our Lady of Sorrows" will explore.

- The meditations will include reflection on the meaning behind the ancient liturgical celebration of Our Lady of Sorrows, which the Church commemorates every year on September 15.
- The conference section will unpack the meaning behind the traditional Catholic practice of "offering up" our sufferings.

Go to the following link to see the Retreat Overview at RCSpirtuality.org: <http://rcspirtuality.org/a-mothers-tears-a-retreat-guide-on-our-lady-of-sorrows/>.

True Progress

Regnum Christi Live – September 9, 2014
By Fr Michael Sliney LC



"True progress quietly and persistently moves along without notice." St. Francis of Assisi

The world promotes glitter, glory, fame, recognition...but the real Saints get things done in a quiet and humble way, often behind the scenes without anyone noticing. I live with a bunch of holy priests who are quietly and persistently helping so many souls through their patience, prayers and fidelity...powerful witness indeed!

Never give up...Pope Francis is on his way

Regnum Christi Live – September 10
By Jim Fair



Through a complex series of events, planned and unplanned, I found myself in a prime spot in St Peter's Square today. There was a more than average chance I'd see the Holy Father up close.

Fortunately, I was with my good friend, Javier Bravo. Javier heads Regnum Christi's communications office in Mexico. (You might say he is Mexico's Jim Fair; in reality, I'm North America's Javier Bravo.)

It was the Pope's Wednesday Audience. As events wound down, the Holy Father gave his great blessing and boarded his Popemobile for a tour of the square and greeting of tens of thousands of gathered pilgrims.

He eventually returned to the steps in front of St. Peter's and worked the line of folks in the "dignitary" seats. Javier and I were in the semi-dignitary section, meaning we wouldn't be kissing his ring, but waving, smiling and catching a glimpse.

The working of the crowd took a long time. As a typical American, I became increasingly impatient. As a typical Mexican, Javier's optimism about a close encounter with the Holy Father kept growing.



Even my offer to take him for cappuccino and gelato could not persuade him to leave. So we waited and ended up along the route of the Pope's exit backstage of the square. He drove by quite close and I snapped a couple nice pictures with my iPhone. And I was glad that Javier had convinced me to hang around.

A Mexican and an American can make a pretty good team...and great friends.

Father-Son Pilgrimage

ITALY | WHO WE ARE | NEWS

Fr. Kevin McKenzie LC invites fathers and sons to Rome

Dads, are you looking for some time together with your son? Why not turn that time into a pilgrimage!

Fr. Kevin McKenzie LC invites you to join him on a Father and Son trip to Rome from December 7-15, 2014.



Pilgrims will have the opportunity to see Pope Francis and to attend the ordination of 35 new Legionary priests.

Pilgrims will also visit many important holy and historic sites and even spend a day in Assisi, the home of Saint Francis.

For more information and cost details, contact Cory Cusmano at 513-509-4339 or send an email to cory.cusmano@accenture.com.

Click

[here](#) for a pilgrimage brochure.



Just Over One Week Left!

U. S. A. | WHO WE ARE | NEWS

Time is running out to get new Regnum Christi apparel during pre-order online sale

Only one week remains to purchase new Regnum Christi apparel, available on the Regnum Christi website through the [RC Store](#), during the limited-time introductory sale.

The special pre-order sale ends Friday, September 19.



A wide variety of items and styles for men and women are available, including polo-style shirts, sweatshirts, jackets and hats. RC members who order now will help decide which items become permanent merchandise at the RC Store. (Click [here](#) for the flyer and more information.)

Items can be ordered for pickup at the Regnum Christi National Convention in Atlanta this October 10-12. Items may also be shipped to your home for an additional fee.

“Don’t miss your chance to get this name-brand, high quality official ©Regnum Christi branded apparel,” said Todd Brechbill from Mission Network.

For more information, contact Anna Kulway at customerservice@missionnetwork.com or call (855) 556-6872.

True Love Waits

Regnum Christi Live – September 11
By Jennifer Malneritch



“True love waits.” It wasn’t quite the type of chastity ring that I was looking for. Don’t get me wrong, I completely agreed with the principle, but as freshmen in college seriously discerning my vocation I felt like something symbolic or even a Claddagh ring would be more apropos. I put the ring back on the shelf and continued browsing through the Catholic gift store; I didn’t have \$30.00 to spend anyway.

Back in my dorm room, however, the words wouldn't leave me alone. But what was God trying to say to me with this? True love waits. My exact thought process: "No. Duh." And with a roll of the eyes you could add to that, "Patience is a virtue." What did that have to do with me and my vocational discernment?

Everything.

God was waiting for me to belong to Him just as much as I was longing to be His. "I know well the plans I have in mind for you" (Jer. 29:11). "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you" (Jer. 1:5). "With age-old love I have loved you" (Jer. 31:3).

He has been waiting for me for eternity. And He still loves me.

True love waits.

It is not simply a duty or moral obligation or even a lack of clarity of where God is leading. Nor is it a sort of limbo or resigned passivity. Rather, it is a promise. A promise that no matter what happens, whether I make a mistake, sin, fight the gifts and purifications He offers, or am beset by obstacles... His love still waits for me. He doesn't give up. He is faithful.

"Late have I loved you. You waited for me, I searched for you. What took me so long?" Matt Maher sings in his song *Alive Again*. God waited while I searched. And He still waits while I still search. You see, that's the beauty of a relationship with God. The more you seek Him, the more you find Him. Yet, the more you find Him, the more you must seek.

St. Augustine once said, "To fall in love with God is the greatest romance; to seek Him, the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement." I hope that I never stop seeking Him, no matter where the adventure takes me – even if it is the road less traveled by. And I hope that I will never stop loving as I wait to see my Beloved face to face.

Maybe I should have bought that chastity ring. I certainly considered it. After all, it was only \$30.00... But in the end, the lesson was priceless – "And that has made all the difference" (*The Road Not Taken*, Frost).

Jim Fair
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